

WE rally classes want peace a little, but they want war more when they want it. Otherwise, they would sign an agreement to stop all their armies.—Alton Benson.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

If anything has been established during the last 25 years it is this: That great military establishments grow, prevent war, and little military establishments don't prevent war.—Alton L. Benson.

OL. L. N.

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1914

50c per year \$1 per year outside United States; 25c for 40 weeks in Clubs of 4 or more except in Chicago

Hillquit Peace At Cop

Morris Hillquit, the American Socialist, is the effort of the Socialist movement to peace in Europe since the war.

This effort will be held at the annual convention of the Socialist Party of America, which will be held at Copenhagen, Denmark, starting Dec. 4. The efforts of the American Socialist Party to have the congress meet in January were not successful.

Hillquit is the representative of the American Socialist Party at the International Socialist Bureau. He was selected to go to Europe by the national executive committee on motion made by J. Stitt Wilson, of Berkeley, Calif.

Many Will Attend. Among the Socialist parties of several nations that will without doubt have delegates present are Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Italy and the United States.

It will be the duty of this congress to make plans to restore to vigorous action the International Socialist movement. The big question will be the calling of an International Socialist Congress along the lines proposed by the American Socialist Party. This congress will be taken to mobilize the great army of labor in the war upon war.

Will Blame The War. Although this congress may not be able to accomplish a great deal, it will blame the war for future efforts. It will take the initial steps and so doubt outline the program that Socialists must now adopt not only to end this war but all future wars. In reviewing the work of this congress The Milwaukee Leader, in an editorial, declares:

"It would be foolish to expect too much of such a congress held while wholesale mankilling is still under way. Passions are too hot, antagonisms too intense, the forces of nationalism and jingoism still too strong to permit of that cool deliberation which is essential to wise and co-operation across national lines."

"Nevertheless it is of great significance that the first negotiations between large sections of the warring peoples are made through the International Socialist movement."

"This congress will certainly gather up the torn fabric of international relations, assure the establishment of the means for permanent communication and, much more important than either of these things, suggest the things for which the millions of workers in every country will work when peace does come."

Make It Last War. "Labor will certainly demand a place at these peace negotiations. As in all previous wars workers have shed more blood than all other classes have suffered more hardships and will bear more burdens when the war has ended. But, different from all previous wars, labor is conscious of its sufferings, awake to some measure of its possibilities and will have the foundation of an organization through which to voice its demands."

"It is for the Socialists of the world to see that the fundamental conditions of the final peace treaty are such that it will be a final peace treaty and not a mere truce. Socialists failed to stop this war but the humiliation of that failure will disappear if they succeed in making it the last great war between civilized nations."

Plans For Peace

Agreements, to the basis of peace, are to be urged by the Socialist Party of America, which is made by the Labour Leader, organ of the British Independent Labour Party, as follows:

"Frontiers should represent nations and should be determined by natural divisions of race, religion, language, and custom. II. Subject peoples should be granted self-government and should be allowed to decide by plebiscite whether they desire to be under the suzerainty of any power."

III. The policy of the balance of power by which the nations of Europe have been divided into antagonistic camps should be superseded by a league of Europe, of which all nations should be members and uniting whom there should be an international body to judge all quarrels and disputes."

IV. The constitution of each nation should be democratic. The people should be given full control of the legislature, and women's claims to citizenship should be recognized. Secret diplomacy should be entirely abolished, and foreign policy placed under the jurisdiction of parliament."

V. The armament industries of the different nations should be taken out of private hands and placed under state control, so that syndicates may no longer be tempted to exploit national jealousies for profit."

VI. The ideal towards which we should move is a United States of Europe, ultimately of the world, in which national armies and navies are replaced by an international police force."

The editor of The Labour Leader argues that the opinion of American Socialists be obtained upon these proposals. The American Socialist will be glad to receive short and concise opinions from its readers and publish as many as possible of them.

Ogden, Utah.—Socialists succeeded in electing D. J. Nyvold constable at Kanabville.

Albany, N. Y.—Socialist vote in Albany County is about 12,000. The vote cast for W. A. Presser, Socialist for congress in the Thirty-first district, is about 4,200. He was opposed by a combination of Democrats and Republicans backing John M. Morris who secured about 14,000 votes. The Progressive candidate got only 482.

Calumet, Mich.—Socialists polled 237 votes here as compared with 444 in 1912. The fear of losing their jobs caused many to remain away from the polls. Over 200 votes were lost to the Socialist Party by removals from this district since the copper strike.

Kelvin, N. Dak.—Socialists swept this precinct. Vote cast gave Socialists 35; rep. 17; dem. 12; prog. 4. Socialists elected four justices of the peace and four constables.

Memphis, Tenn.—A big race was made here by the Socialist candidate for congress who polled 1,250 votes against 1,461 cast for the democratic candidate. However the vote for other offices fell off somewhat since 1912.

Wheeling, W. Va.—A good gain was seen in the Socialist vote in Ohio County. There were 874 Socialist ballots cast this time as against 524 at last election. Socialists are pleased at gain.

No. 107 If No. 106 appears on your address label, your subscription expires next week. Do not fail to renew.

STRANGLE THE BEAST!

By A. M. SIMONS, Author of "Social Forces in American History"

THE mad beast of militarism is sinking his fangs into America.

At first the very horror of the war overshadowed all else. Everyone could see that it was exactly the crushing methodical preparation for the killing of men that made possible and indeed, inevitable, the final bloody climax, and there was unanimous condemnation of all making ready for war.

Now familiarity is breeding acquiescence. Some infection of the martial spirit has crossed the Atlantic. American jingoes are preaching the need of military preparations.

Powerful newspapers, politicians and paid agents of the armament trust, with the blood-lusting snobs of the army and navy clique are crying for more battleships and whispering of the need of a great standing army. That whisper will soon become a scream for the whole military mass.

If we would avoid the crushing brutalizing grip of this beast upon American life it will demand every atom of militant determined energy of the Socialist movement of this country. There must be no compromise on this thing. The hell of the European war is already paved too deep with the good intentions and compromising performances of Socialists.

MILITARISM AND SOCIALISM.

There is no room in the same world for militarism and Socialism. When one comes in the other must go out. Militarism is a beast that must either be driven into the outer darkness or permitted to devour all that is worth while in society.

This is the first and biggest fact of all, that militarism cannot be adopted in small doses. The essence of militarism is competition and the end of competition must always be the power to crush all rivals. A partial ineffective militarism is like a gun in the hands of a tenderfoot in a frontier camp,—an urgent invitation to be killed.

Militarism is a beast that makes the food he feeds and grows upon, and he eats until he bestrides his world. If we are to have armies or navies we must have the strongest in the world, or they are worse than useless, a mere bid for destruction.

There can be no talk of a "democratic" army, or a "citizen" army. These things have never existed. This war has shown that every step towards that end spells weakness, and strength is the be all and only end of militarism.

ORGANIZED TO KILL.

Autocracy is the foundation of efficient organization for killing. The power of life

and death in time of war must be confided to a military clique. These chosen pets of armament rings and ruling exploiters must be given the right to strike when they see fit. Otherwise they may not be able to involve the nation at war at the most advantageous moment, and gain such an advantage as Japan had when she struck the Russian fleet, or Germany when she swept down upon Belgium, or the United States when it sent the fleet to Vera Cruz.

This spirit of autocracy must not be curbed in time of peace lest it fail to act ruthlessly in time of war. Initiative and independence must be crushed, for the spirit of militarism is unquestioning, blind obedience.

To better inculcate this spirit the epauletted snob must be made the social hero and given full scope to show his superiority. He must be permitted to kick workingmen, snare civilians and outrage the women of the working class without interference. Similar privileges in a less degree must be extended to all uniformed brutes. Otherwise the common soldiers might forget that they are trained dogs who must bite only when ordered, and never snap at their trainers.

The conscripted army is superior in killing power to either the volunteer or the hired assassin. Therefore let us have conscription. If we do not our neighbors will, and our armament will be but an aggravation inviting assault and destruction.

MUST FAVOR KILLER.

The laws of war must be made to favor the professional killer. It must be made noble and heroic for strong men to drop bombs from the sky upon the heads of unresisting women and children, but torture and ignominious death must be meted out to the civilian who resists the uniformed ruffians who break open his home to destroy his little possessions and assault his wife and daughter.

The honors in competitive murder and mayhem must go to trained craftsmen in those trades. Therefore the youth of our nation must spend years in the barracks until, like the men of some of the foremost military nations, practically every man is infected with foul sexual disease.

We must train our little boys to worship death, destruction and arbitrary authority. We must drill them in "boys' brigades" and troops of "boy scouts" in churches whose religion is the worship of a tribal Jehovah who was pleased when his chosen people slew the women and the children of other tribes.

We must encourage all things that

breed hatred of other races and peoples. We must preach "manifest destiny" and "benevolent assimilation", and the high character of our "culture", until we have reached a degree of insane egoism where we are anxious to whip all the world.

The grand purpose of wholesale murder and national aggrandisement justifies all means. Deceit and treachery and lying must become the customary thing between nations. With Roosevelt we must despise treaties and be ready to tear them up when dealing with weaker nations like Columbia or Belgium.

The nation that would be adequately armed, and anything less is an invitation to destruction, must teach a philosophy that drips blood and bombast. Its educators must be Treischkes, Nietzsches and Munsterbergs; its journalists and statesmen, Hearsts, Hobsons and Roosevelts.

If we once enter this road we must not, cannot dare not stop while a single resource remains unsacrificed to the beast. Else by just that thing withheld we may be less strong than the neighbor we defy and taunt to mutual slaughter.

BREEDERS OF SOLDIERS.

Our women must become mere breeders of soldiers and slaves of the factory. Thanks to the inventions of generations of workers we are now able to rise to the full height of the savage and leave all our useful work to be done by women and old men while the young men may be reserved for killing one another.

We can travel this road to the bloody pit that is its end or we can turn about and travel the road that leads to human brotherhood, mutual democracy and equality, international solidarity and co-operation and a world of free and happy men and women.

But we cannot travel these two roads at the same time.

It is either capitalism and competitive military hell, or Socialism and cooperative peaceful enjoyment of the bounty of the earth.

The time is here to choose. Militarism is, after all, but the bloody claw and gore flecked fang of the beast of capitalism.

Whoever defends any form of militarism, any armament for wholesale killing, defends the most damnable feature of capitalism and can have no part or parcel in the doctrine or movement of Socialism.

It is equally true that whoever would strike this thing that has blotted the history of mankind with blood, and has now plunged half the world into a gory carnival of death must work with the Socialists.

Moreover we must work quickly, for the beast is now within our gates.

Here They Are!

Recently the Socialist Party of America elected to the state legislatures as compiled by the Socialist Party, information Department. The name of the state senator elected in Montana is the only one missing.

The latest returns, received in a telegram from State Secretary Thomas W. Williams, shows that only two Socialists were elected in California. They are L. A. Spengler, butler dealer, 71st district and George W. Downey attorney, 73d district. Wilton W. Harris, Bakerfield, editor of The Labor News, was nominated by the Socialist Party but accepted endorsements from other parties and was expelled for so doing. This report indicates that Estelle Lawton Lindsay, who would have been the first Socialist woman elected to a state legislature, did not win out as reported by the early returns.

The list that shows 31 Socialists elected to state legislatures is as follows:

STATE SENATORS

Idaho—E. W. Bowman, Adams Co. Minnesota—Richard Jones, Duluth. Montana—(Name Missing), Minnerico.

Wisconsin—Louis A. Arnold, Milwaukee.

STATE ASSEMBLY MEN.

California—L. A. Spengler, 71st district; George W. Downing, 73rd district. Illinois—Christian M. Madson, Chicago. Joseph M. Mason, Chicago. Kansas—George D. Brewer, Crawford Co.

Massachusetts—Charles H. Morrill, Haverhill.

Minnesota—J. W. Woodfill, Two Harbors. A. O. Devold, Minneapolis.

Montana—Alexander Mackel, Silver Bow Co. A. N. Alderman, Silver Bow Co.

Nevada—C. A. Steele, Jerrington.

Oklahoma—C. H. Ringwood, Major Co.; S. W. Hill, Roger Mills Co.; McLenore, Beckham Co.; D. C. Kirkpatrick, Dewey Co.

Pennsylvania—James H. Maurer, Reading.

Texas—J. Alexander Bevan, Tule Co.

Wisconsin—Carl Minkley, Edward Zinn, H. O. Kent, F. J. Weber, James C. Smith, John J. Fox, F. M. McCall all from Milwaukee.

Milwaukee may yet show another assemblyman added to its list while one or two other states may also trail in with reports of legislators elected.

Pittsburg, Socialists Win.—Pittsburg Socialists have won a fight against the police who tried to stop them exhibiting moving pictures illustrating phases of Socialism.

Three of the "movies" that have been shown are Bertha von Suttner's "Last Days of Pompeii"; Jack London's "John Barter"; and P. L. Simkins' "The Jungle".

The fight continues.—Since the red flag has been banned, Massachusetts Socialists are considering carrying a white flag inscribed, "This is a red flag," as it is hoped this will not be hostile to organized government.

Three million eggs have arrived at Boston for shipment to England because the Russian supply has been cut off. Wonder how long they have been in cold storage.

The United States leads the world in homicides. It has more murderers to the square mile than any other country in the world. But this was before the war in Europe started.

There were 195 men killed in and about coal mines in the United States during last September against 173 for the same month one year ago.

Young People's Issue.

This is the last call for help for the Young People's Issue, No. 106, Nov. 21, of The American Socialist.

We have just received one of Ryan Walker's amazing cartoons that ought to be seen and read by every young person in America. Every one should get a handle of this issue and devote the week to work among the young people. Use the order blank on page two.

EUROPE'S MILLIONAIRES, THROUGH DIPLOMATS, FOOLED WORKERS TO SLAUGHTER EACH OTHER

By JAMES KEIR HARDIE, Socialist Member of the British Parliament

"THE LABOUR PARTY."

St. Victoria Street, London, E. W., August 7th, 1914.

Dear Sir—

We beg to inform you the Special Meetings of the National Executive of the Labour Party were held on August 5th and 6th to consider the European crisis when it was decided to forward to each of the allied organizations the following Resolutions—

That the conflict between the nations in Europe in which this country is involved is owing to Foreign Ministers pursuing diplomatic policies for the purpose of maintaining a balance of power; that our own national policy of understanding with France and Russia only was bound to increase the power of Russia both in Europe and Asia, and to endanger good relations with Germany.

That Sir Edward Grey, as proved by the facts which he gave to the House of Commons, committed without the knowledge of our people the honor of the country to support France in the event of any war in which she was seriously involved, and gave definite assurances of support before the House of Commons had any chance of considering the matter.

That the Labour Movement recognizes the fact that it has opposed the policy which has produced the war, and that no duty is now to secure peace at the earliest possible moment on such conditions as will provide the best opportunities for the re-establishment of amicable relations between the workers of Europe.

W. C. ANDERSON, Chairman, ANTHONY MENDENHALL, Secretary.

That declaration was sent to all the allied organizations and has never been questioned, amended or qualified, and will stand as the official declaration of the Labour Party. It is very important that this should be kept in mind. Where the foregoing resolutions and declarations were passed there has been a development on the part of the Labour Party. The Party itself

in the House of Commons, and the Executive of the organization for the country, both decided by majority to accept an invitation from the Government to take part with the Liberal and Conservative Parties in a great Recruiting Campaign.

But this does not in any way alter the attitude which the Party originally took to the war, nor the reasons which led Great Britain to take part therein, a fact which I desire should be steadily borne in mind.

LET US LOOK FOR a moment at the reasons which led the Party to come to its decision about the policy which led to the war. We fight as the allies of France and Russia. At the close of the Russo-Japan war in 1905 the Russian Empire was bankrupt in every sense of the word. Her reason for making peace with Japan was more financial than military. Russia for over half a century had been the great central state among European nations.

From the days of the Crimean war to the middle of last century down to 1905 not a cent of money could be got on loan in Europe to aid the Russian Empire. She was isolated and abandoned not only for her aggressiveness, but also for her treatment of her subjects, such as the Poles, and the Jews, and the red-headed Russians.

Who in there that has not shuddered over the tales of atrocities, over the tortures and unparagonable atrocities of her prisons and dungeons under the sun, where his very name rotted, and his teeth fell from his mouth? That was Russia!

At the close of the war with Japan, as I have said, she was bankrupt financially, and an extract from the nations of Europe successful Russia was being waged within her borders, her army and navy were impoverished with debt, and she was prepared to join with the revolutionary movement in the overthrow of the Tsar and all he stood for.

WHO THEN CAME TO the rescue of Russia, loaned her money, gave her moral prestige, and

a standing amongst the nations of Europe? Great Britain. Why was it done? It was done as the "balance of power". Our Government formed its understanding and laid its plans with Russia, the monster of iniquity, and with France, to check the growth of Germany.

Six years ago Mr. Lloyd George declared in a speech that Germany in creating a navy was only doing so for her own defence, and that England in her place could do exactly the same. The "German fleet" had no existence until after we had formed our alliance with Russia. That was the origin of the present war, and the whole policy of Great Britain since, and its secret diplomacy has been on the side of creating the circumstances and the situation which made the war inevitable.

One of the most popular justifications for the war in England has been the cry that we are not to protect Belgium. If that were the object it has failed. The neutrality of Belgium, which was guaranteed by treaty in 1839 was not made with the consent of, but rather in the teeth of the most bitter opposition from the Belgian nation. That treaty was not made to protect Belgium, but to suit the plans of the great nations of last days. When the Belgians were struggling on heroically, it was not Belgium that was the beginning of the present war, neither France nor British troops were there to help them to protect their neutrality and independence.

Luxemburg was also occupied by German troops. Not a stone was displaced, nor the hair of a single head injured, nor was the fact more than merely mentioned in the "British press," although Luxemburg is a protected state exactly the same as Belgium. And when we remember Britain's attitude towards small states in South Africa, in Persia, in Egypt, in India and elsewhere, it requires a very imaginative person to believe the absurd statement that we are at war to protect the rights and liberties of Belgium. As a matter of fact, France has simply used Belgium to suit her own military necessities, and our Foreign Office has aided and abetted the crime.

I NOW TURN FOR A MOMENT to the position taken by the Independent Labour Party, which, as it is now universally known, is a Socialist organization affiliated to the Labour Party, on the same basis as are the great Trade Unions of England.

The cordially approved policy set forth in the resolutions of the Labour Party (set forth above). When, however, it was invited to take part in a recruiting campaign with the two capitalist parties, appearing on the same platform with them, and making itself responsible for all the blunders and mistakes that are being made as a result of being at war, it at once declined.

It felt that, under the circumstances, to have done anything else would have been inconsistent with its position as a section of the International Socialist Movement. It realized that the object of those who promoted the war in Europe was certainly not love for Socialism or the working-class.

We knew that already the growth of the Socialist parties, particularly in France and Germany, was steadily bringing about the downfall of militarism in both countries, that in France the Government could not be carried on without the sanction at least of the Socialist Party, and that in Germany the Government was being carried on by the army from two to three years had for all practical purposes been abandoned.

IN GERMANY ALSO THERE was a corresponding growth. When the German army was increased to only 100,000 men, the proposal could be made to place a direct levy upon capital, instead of the usual terms. Five years, ten years from now, and the Socialists of those two countries would have been in a position to compel their respective Governments to settle very satisfactory questions on those of Alsace and Lorraine and come to an amicable understanding one with the other. But that outlook has now passed for ever, and capitalist militarism is giving itself a fresh lease of power, not only in

France and Germany, but also in England.

In France the reactionary forces, Royalist and Catholic, are infusing new vigor into the spirit of the war. In England Lord Roberts has declared that the war makes inevitable for compensation. Russia is a great territory, rich in mineral and other forms of wealth, but poor and without capital. Germany, like England, has had great prosperity and has not expended trade. The British manufacturer would "smash" German trade and get it for himself.

The British and French millionaires want Russia opened up so that they may find fresh investments for their ever increasing wealth. And so they employ skilled diplomats, and create armies and navies to achieve their ends, and all the time they are fooling the workers in supporting their political parties and slaughtering each other when called upon to do. We Socialists of the Independent Labour Party will oppose the whole system, whether in war or peace.

I CONCLUDE BY SAYING that Great Britain is not in this war to protect Belgium, or to put down the German fleet, or to achieve any secret and unknown to the nation, as involved in an agreement with Russia and France in order to preserve the ill earned balance of power, that as the official documents clearly prove, we were practically forced to join in the war the moment it entered the purpose of Russia that there should be war.

It is the duty of every young person to withdraw from the conflict with increased prestige, it is the one power that can crush Germany, and no one will say it is fighting for democracy. It, therefore, as the Trade Unions of the United States (wishes to put no trust in the war justification plea of the paid spokesmen of the British Government. The United States in particular may have a very important part to play in giving the terms of peace.

We must see to it that the German people are not crushed and humiliated, whether the British are militarists, and it is for the working-class of the great American Continent to maintain an attitude of strict neutrality towards both the combatants, England and Germany, and thereby make the task of the peace-maker easier.

100,000 SUBS By January 1st, 1915

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John Landess is the secretary of the American Socialist Party in Nevada. He is a big place and Charlie is a very big local. In fact, we are told by a traveling organization who has been there that John Landess is about the whole local. This, however, did not deter Charlie from taking on an American Socialist Party in Nevada. Today we received a letter from John Landess which reads as follows:

Encouraging gains shown by the American Socialist Party in Nevada.

By State Sec'y Hester.

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Splendid Opportunity To Do Much For Our Class

By JAMES H. MAURER, Who Was Sent Back To The Pennsylvania State Legislature

The last election more Socialists were elected to various State Legislatures than ever before. Ten years ago James Carey, of Massachusetts, was our lone Socialist legislator in America. Today socialist returns are at least a dozen states elected from one to eight Socialist assemblymen.

It is usually assumed that all old party or progressive legislators are gamblers, that they are servile to the interests of the boss. This is a mistaken idea. True, many are mere puppets, who are moved like pawns, and stand without hitching. But many are not. Those that are not are termed good men, and know that they are wrong, but just that they are wrong they do not know. They think they know and attribute to their own shortcomings to conditions against them.

It is therefore, most obvious that what such a delegation needs most of all are Socialists to lead the way for them, willing to do right, and put on record, those who are not.

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MONTANA ON THE MAP.

Butte, Mont.—A. J. Alderman and Alex. Heston are the two Socialists who will sit in the next legislature of Montana as representatives.

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Books For Christmas

There is no more suitable Christmas present than a newly bound book. If you friend or relative is a Socialist, a good Socialist book will especially appeal to him. If a non-Socialist, he is more likely to read a Socialist book given him as a Christmas present than he would otherwise. You can easily find something to everyone's taste in the list below.

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Ability+Training=Power

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